This Issue of the A. F. of L. Weekly News Service Consists of 2 Pages

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives more economic and political interpretations of matters affecting labor appearing in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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The greatest discovery of my life is that the men who do the work never get rich.—Andrew Carnegie.

WHOLE NO. 1477 | WILLIAM GREEN, President | WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, 1939. | FRANK MORRISON, Secretary-Treasurer | VOL. 29, NO. 31

FACING *the* FACTS

With PHILIP PEARL

Old John L. Sullivan was clever enough to lead with his chin sometimes and get away with it. But John L. Lewis is not John L. Sullivan. The white hope of the C. I. O. led with his chin the other day before the House Labor Committee and he is still seeing stars and hearing the birdies sing.

The brutal encounter between Lewis and "Cactus Jack" Garner will go down in history as the "battle of eyebrows." The Vice President, with his hands tied behind his back and his legs sealed by the official position, spotted the C. I. O. dictator more than 100 pounds and won in the first round. Lewis tried his old stunt of breathing fire but the flames boomeranged and singed his own eyebrows.

The Vice President taught Lewis that in the game of political poker, just as in the card game, you can't bluff on every pot and expect to get away with it. Garner called Lewis' bluff and when the cards were laid down on the table for all to see, Lewis held nothing. Naturally, he was wiped out.

For all his romantic ideas about people, whiskey drinking, Lewis demonstrated to the country that a man can get far more drunk on ego than on liquor. Intoxicated with his own importance, Lewis made his debut before the whole country. He made a holy show of himself. And his hangover will be long and bitter.

As the mists settle around his tortured mind, Lewis will also experience a severe case of the "D. T's." He will see not only "evil old men" but practically the entire population of the country dancing around his prostrate form. How have the mighty fallen!

The Next Chapter

It is now apparent even to his own followers that Lewis is through. He has taken the count too often. He is getting slug-nutty, as they say in the fight game. He can't hope to stage a comeback. He shouldn't be allowed even to try. Not that anyone is worrying about Lewis absorbing more punishment, but because a repetition of such farcical performances will just about ruin the membership of the C. I. O. and hurt the cause of labor generally.

The damage already done by Lewis to the labor movement is becoming evident on all sides. He has accomplished just the opposite of what he set out to do. He has been a colossal failure. He tried to ride the crest of radicalism, only to be heavily overwhelmed by the backwash of reaction.

Labor cannot afford to permit the progressive accomplishments of the past few years to be engulfed and destroyed by a reactionary wave. Labor can no longer afford John L. Lewis. He is too expensive a luxury. If he is permitted to continue his mad course unchecked, the present wave of reaction may become a tide.

More and more rapidly the workers of this country are losing interest in Lewis and his C. I. O. because they are learning that Lewis has no real interest in them. They are learning that Lewis has no real interest in the trade union movement. They are beginning to realize the truth. And the truth is that Lewis' only interest in the workers of this country is to use them as catspaws in the furtherance of his own personal, selfish political ambitions.

Those Whom the Gods Would Destroy

It is no longer any secret that Lewis is out to promote his own power rather than the welfare of labor. He doesn't care a continental about helping the laboring masses, except as it may help him control these masses. The trade union movement has always been regarded by Lewis merely as a stepping stone—a stepping stone to the domination of our country.

Here is a man who has utter contempt for democracy. Here is a man with delusions of grandeur. Here is a man whose ability reaches the level of a Hitler or a Mussolini. Here is the great "I Am."

His whole record proves that. Look at the way he has subjugated the coal miners to his personal control and dictatorship. Look at the way he has pulled the strings of his C. I. O. puppet. Any Lewis movement is a one-man movement. Any Lewis organization is a one-man show.

Look at what he has done to the automobile workers. We have just come back to Washington from a short stay in Detroit. What we saw there was tragic. Lewis' men tried to separate the Chrysler Corporation, but they failed miserably. They tried to organize the Ford workers, but they failed miserably. They tried to mobilize them. He has succeeded in wrecking them. The men in the ranks are now demoralized. The industry is demoralized. There has been nothing but a constant succession of strikes and more strikes, every variety of them under the sun. The men are now sick of strikes. Their wives are even more disgusted. They are fed up with Lewis' brand of fake unionism. They are fed up with being C. I. O. catspaws and stooges for the Communist Party. They want steady work. They want steady pay envelopes. They want a chance to earn a living. They don't want a dole, they don't want relief and they don't want to go on breaking their hearts and ruining their future on a permanent C. I. O. picket line.

These people now see a ray of hope. The A. F. of L. has moved in to help them. A corps of thirty-five ace A. F. of L. organizers, led by National Director of Organization Francis P. Fenton, moved into Detroit last Saturday. They met with Homer Martin, president of the United Automobile Workers of America, the legitimate auto workers union holding an A. F. of L. international charter. Together they drew up a policy for future action and laid plans for an aggressive organizing campaign. They have gone to work in a deliberate, systematic way. Every A. F. of L. union in the Detroit area is working together with them. We want every A. F. of L. union in every part of the country where automobile plants are located to render similar cooperation to the auto workers. We want to see a real organizing drive in destined for success. A sound, sane, constructive auto workers union can be organized and must be established. Enough damage has been done. Let's clean up the C. I. O. mess and build a solid, self-governing and self-governed trade union of auto workers, by auto workers and for auto workers.

(Released by the American Federation of Labor Weekly News Service)

Labor Board Orders Separate Plant Elections in Automobile Industry

Judge Padway Says Decision Reflects the Position Taken by the American Federation of Labor in Demanding Plant Units for Selecting Representatives for Collective Bargaining.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington, D. C.—A significant decision was handed down by the National Labor Relations Board on August 2 in the automobile industry wherein the Board ordered secret ballot elections of the production and maintenance employees in the plants of the Chrysler Corporation, the Ford Motor Products Corporation, and the Briggs Manufacturing Company.

The Board directed that the votes be conducted on the basis of separate plant elections as demanded by the American Federation of Labor and opposed by other organizations. The majority opinion was signed by Chairman Madden and Board Member Leiserson.

A minority opinion was signed by Board member Edwin Smith who contended that the ballot be conducted on an employer-wide unit grouping together all plants of each employer.

In commenting on this decision Judge Padway, counsel for the American Federation of Labor, said:

"These decisions present an interesting contrast with previous decisions of the Board in the Longshoremen's case and the Libbey-Ford-Owens Glass Company case.

"In the Longshoremen's case the Board constituted the entire Pacific coast consisting of all employers a single unit.

"In the Libbey-Ford-Owens Glass Company case the Board merged the employees of the Parkersburg plant with other plants in other cities into a single unit. On the basis of such merger a rival union was certified as the bargaining agent of the Parkersburg plant even though 183 of the 184 employes of this plant were members of the American Federation of Labor.

Quotes From Board's Decision

"In its recent automobile industry decision the Board said:

"'We are of the opinion that all plants should not be grouped in a single bargaining unit. It cannot be said that the past history of collective bargaining in the plants here established such a pattern of bargaining. On the contrary, bargaining relations in the past have recognized the individual status of separate plants.

"'Furthermore peculiar problems arise out of the division of the international union into two groups. For it appears that A.F.L. and C.I.O. may have overwhelming majority in several of the plants and the C.I.O. U.A.W. a similarly large majority in several others. Under the circumstances we conclude that each of the plants involved in this proceeding constitutes a separate appropriate bargaining unit.'

Outlines Importance of Ruling

"Although the decisions point out the dangers inherent in the vesting of unlimited discretion over units in a Board and the danger from the division of too small an unit, such an important ruling (for it is possible for

(Continued on Page 2)

Craft Unions Menaced by Labor Board Ruling in American Can Company Case

Judge Padway Says Refusal to Permit American Federation of Labor Unions to Bargain Separately Is a 'Blow at the Structure of the Federation.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington, D. C.—[F. a decision dated July 29, 1939, a majority opinion of the National Labor Relations Board refused to permit the locals of the Operating Engineers, Machinists, Firemen and Oilers Brotherhood, and the Electrical Workers Brotherhood, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, whose members are employed by the American Can Company of Berkeley, Calif., to bargain separately in negotiating agreements with the company. The Labor Board split on the decision. Board members H. S. Smith and W. M. Leiserson handed down a majority opinion against the A. F. of L. unions. Chairman J. W. Madden dissented from the opinion of the majority.

Joseph A. Padway, counsel of the American Federation of Labor, declared in a statement that the majority opinion strikes at the elemental structure of the American Federation of Labor and subjects the rights of craft unions to the whims and caprices of individual members of the Labor Board.

"The National Labor Relations Board, in the American Can Company case, decided July 29, 1939, has dealt the American Federation of Labor craft unions their latest and most crushing blow," Judge Padway said.

"All the apprehension and fear of the eventual engulfment of craft unions by Board action, which gave rise to the amendments to the National Labor Relations Act proposed by the American Federation of Labor have now been realized.

"The Board decision is laid down that once an industrial unit has been established for an entire plant, and the industrial organization has obtained a contract, such unit will be left undisturbed for all time, though the contract has expired, and regardless of the wishes of even 100 per cent of the craft workers employed in the plant. Chairman Madden vigorously dissented from this decision.

"Board Member Leiserson went so far as to state that the Wagner Act sprecluded the Board from declaring a craft unit after a contract had once been entered into between the company and the industrial unit.

"This reasoning was too much even for Board Member Edwin Smith. However, Board Member Smith agreed with the conclusion on the basis of his former Akin Chalmers decision dissent to the effect that the industrial unit is preferable.

Chairman Madden Dissents

"As a result, craft organizations can be certain as long as Edwin Smith is on the Board and as long as Board Member Leiserson retains his present view, 'the craft form of organization is doomed throughout the nation,' Mr. Dietz had the right to exist," as Chairman Madden states in his dissent.

"The majority decision and its injustice is forcefully pointed out by Chairman Madden in the following portion of his dissent:

"'Thirdly, I think the proposed distinction works unjustifiably in practical effect. It means that where a craft union obtains an exclusive bargaining contract the industrial union may nevertheless; by taking away the membership of the craft unit with the craft unit with the industrial unit.

"'If the industrial union fails in its first attempts it may nevertheless continue its efforts. But once the industrial union has obtained an exclusive contract on a plant-wide basis, either by organizing before the advent of the craft union or by organizing the craft union's majority in a later election, thereafter the craft employes are irrevocably part of the industrial unit.

"'The effect is, therefore, to crystallize the industrial form of organization and prevent the craft employes from ever thereafter changing their minds.'

Decision Justifies A. F. L. Amendments to Labor Act

"No more dramatic illustration has been presented of the manner in which, under the various administrate, broad discretion of the Board over units given by the present Act, the right of craft unions expand completely on the personal preference of the individual members of the Board.

"No greater proof than this case is necessary to justify the amendment proposed by the American Federation of Labor whereby the vital decision of whether or not craft workers shall constitute a separate unit is left to these most directly concerned—the craft workers themselves—and not to the whimsical inclinations or economic views of members of the Board.

"The case is a striking demonstration that with the greatest cherished right of autonomy of organized labor threatened by the present language of section 9(c) of the National Labor Relations Act. Unless that language is changed, many craft unions can look forward to ultimate destruction."

Bates Urges House of Representatives To Pass Wagner Slum-Clearance Bill

Chairman of A. F. of L. Housing Committee Says Low Cost Housing Measure Already Passed by the Senate Will Provide Jobs for Hundreds of Thousands of Unemployed Building Trades Workers.

BULLETIN

Washington, D. C.—On Thursday, August 3, the House of Representatives refused, by a vote of 191 to 170, to consider the Wagner low-rent housing and slum-clearance bill, already approved by the Senate, authorizing the United States Housing Authority to lend an additional $500,000,000 to State and local housing authorities to aid in the construction of dwelling accommodations at rentals to meet the necessities of low-income groups. *Sec. of A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.*

Washington, D. C.—The supreme importance of extricating the Wagner Bill, authorizing $800,000,000 additional loans to local housing authorities for the construction of low-rent housing and the prevention of slum-clearance bill (S. 591) before adjournment,

"Failure to enact this bill would be a public disservice, from the legislative jam accompanying the closing days of the first session of the seventy-sixth Congress and enacting it into law, was emphasized in a statement issued by Harry C. Bates, chairman of the Housing Committee of the American Federation of Labor.

"The Senate has already passed the bill," said Mr. Bates, "expects the House of Representatives to give prompt consideration to the low-rent housing and slum-clearance bill (S. 591) before adjournment.

"The Senate, on the part of the House to consider and to pass amendments assuring the continuation and expansion of the United States Housing Authority would be a betrayal not only of hundreds of thousands of families now living in slums in our cities and rural areas, it would also be treason to more than 700,000 unemployed building mechanics and laborers who would be assured employment through the provisions of this bill.

"This measure has already passed the Senate by an overwhelming majority with the strong support of both parties.

Favorably Reported

"It has been reported favorably by the Banking and Currency Committee of the House and approved by the Administration.

"The denial of opportunity to consider this bill is to establish a public record of the stand taken on low-rent housing by each Representative who votes against it. In other words, can people of their right to know whether or not those elected to represent them in Congress favor or oppose the express wishes of the people of this important non-partisan legislation.

"This bill has the active support of five million members of the American Federation of Labor, their families and their friends. It also has the unequivocal endorsement of all representative groups whether they are employers, builders, consumers, businessmen or low-cost plan citizens.

Social Benefits Are Large

"The reason for this widespread support is that the economic as this measure is real and rigid economy.

"The costs of providing good and soundly constructed housing where and only where such housing is needed and cannot be privately built without public aid has been pared down by the USHA to the last penable cent.

"It also economy in the real sense of the word to wipe out crime-breeding, disease-ridden slums which are the hundreds of millions of dollars a year in terms of our health bill, our crime prevention bill, the upkeep of the ever increasing cost of the growing juvenile delinquency and infant mortality, are the inevitable consequence of the fact that substandard homes breed substandard citizens.

Will Provide Jobs for Thousands

"It is an incontrovertible fact that every dollar to be authorized by Congress for the continuation of this program will yield more in terms of unemployment and in terms of permanent economic benefits to the nation than any other program hitherto undertaken or any other program proposed to date.

"A program which will give work at the site to more than 700,000 building trades mechanics and laborers or a full year's employment to nearly

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A.F.L. MEMBERSHIP TOTALS 3,902,979

1,462,929 New Members Have Been Gained Since September 5, 1936, Secretary-Treasurer Morrison Reports; 105 National and International Unions Are Now Affiliated.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington, D. C.—Frank Morrison, secretary-treasurer of the American Federation of Labor, announced that the paid-up membership of the A. F. of L. affiliates as of August 1, 1939, was 3,902,979 members.

"This is an increase in membership of the affiliated organizations of the American Federation of Labor since September 5, 1936, of 1,462,929," he said, adding:

"There are 105 national and international unions, 43 state bodies, and 800 central bodies affiliated with the American Federation of Labor."

Who Wants Lewis?

A One Minute Drama of Actual, Factual, Political History Taken Verbatim from the Congressional Record of July 28, 1939.

Rep. Schafer (Republican of Wisconsin).—I notice in the press of July 28 that our Democratic colleague, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. Anderson) said that "Lewis has raped the Democratic Party and is preparing to return to his first love, the Republican Party." I do not see how the Democratic Party can cry "rape" when the Democratic Party has given John L. Lewis for $60,000 pieces of silver—his $500,000 political campaign contribution.

Rep. Patrick (Democrat of Alabama).—We do not want him. We are trying to take him back now.—John Lewis.

Rep. Hoffman (Republican of Michigan).—But you got $470,000 with that money, will you take him back?

Rep. Hoffman (Republican of Michigan).—No, no.

10,400,000 Are Still Looking For Jobs

Number of Unemployed Has Increased 8,500,000 During Last Decade, A. F. of L. Declares.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington, D. C.—Opportunities for employment in the United States are still closed to 10,400,000 working men and women, the American Federation of Labor asserted in its current survey of the unemployment situation.

Reviewing the persistent tragedy of a permanent unemployed army during the last ten years, the Federation declared that the number of out-of-works increased 8,500,000 during that period, a large portion of the lost jobs having been caused by the installation of labor-displacing machinery and methods to do the work traditionally performed by men and women.

In its discussion of "Ten Years of Unemployment" the Federation said:

"Striking business improvement in June 1939 raised the production index 5 per cent and put 500,000 back to work; unemployment was reduced from nearly 10,900,000 to 10,400,000.

"Trade union figures for July (weighted) show no change since June in the general employment situation with 10.4 per cent unemployed each month.

"Building tradesmen suffered layoffs in July because of cuts in WPA forces, but since the reductions were no more than the usual seasonal declines, and in one trade, printing, employment gained slightly, which is unusual in this time of year.

Millions of Jobs Destroyed

"This is the tenth year of serious unemployment in the United States.

"The 10,400,000 out of work in June represents a rise of 8,500,000 since 1929.

"This is due to an increase of 5,

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half a million workers, which will relieve our critically acute need for housing, and which will provide the most essential stimulus to the construction industry, must not be destroyed in the last-minute legislative jam."

What Editor's Say About Lewis's Attack on Vice President Garner

WASHINGTON EVENING STAR
July 28, 1939

When John L. Lewis' eyebrows are as white as those of the Vice President of the United States he may understand that discretion-calling charm a powerful kick-back on the name-caller. Indeed he may have the fact forced upon him almost immediately, as a result of his characterization of Mr. Garner as a "labor-baiting, poker-playing, whisky-drinking, evil old man." That remark, unless Senators and Representatives commanding action are wrong, has lost to Mr. Lewis and his labor organizations the Congress of Industrial Organizations, many votes in both houses.

Mr. Lewis enjoys a wide reputation as a clever politician and labor strategist. His outburst yesterday leaves one wondering where he got that reputation.

DETROIT FREE PRESS
July 29, 1939

Mr. Garner's reputation is not to be assailed by the ravings of a demagog who has become so used to substitution of invective and bald accusation for reason and argument that at last he seems to have lost all caution, and to have gained the idea that he can get away with any amount of Hitler-like roaring at anybody on any occasion.

John L. Lewis is at a stage in his career where it will be wise of him to stop and sit down by himself and think over the ancient saying that whom the gods would destroy they first make mad."

PHILADELPHIA RECORD
July 29, 1939

John L. Lewis' attack upon Vice President Garner sounded exactly like a run-of-the-mine Hitler blast at President Roosevelt.

Garner's best friend couldn't have done him any greater political service than Lewis did by denouncing, not Garner's political methods, but his personal habits.

Maybe he was the proximity of Mars, as some have suggested, or the heat, as others charitably explain; but our own hunch is that Lewis became intoxicated by the sound of his own phrases.

NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE
July 29, 1939

Lewis has cracked up against his opposition. We say "cracked up" advisedly. For never was there a broader consensus of defiant, condescending its sources, than this hysterical tirade against the deputy chief executive of the country, Little wonder Mr. Garner chuckled. Good poker players are thoroughly familiar with the explosions which precede collapse.

CHICAGO DAILY TRIBUNE
July 29, 1939

There does not seem to be much cause for excitement in John L. Lewis' attack on Vice President Garner. Mr. Lewis' years, while his admirers believe shake the earth, usually do wail to rattle the shutters.

Mr. Lewis is still an active promoter of civil disorder, and his communist lieutenants have not abandoned their revolutionary hopes. But his pretensions to political power are now clearly disposed. This is one reason why he yells so loud.

WASHINGTON POST
July 29, 1939

Mr. Lewis, paragon of virtue and assiduous ascetic though he may be, has this time stepped heavily on a banana peel and is in for the consequences customarily consequent thereon. In doing so he has already achieved publicity, for which his yen is unmistakable. But there are various sorts of publicity and the present instance savors of the ballyhoo variety.

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER
July 29, 1939

It is obviously unnecessary for any American citizen to be a political supporter of John Nance Garner in order to feel and to express deep resentment over John L. Lewis' intemperate denunciation of the Vice President as a "labor-baiting, poker-play-

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Importance of Democracy in Trade Union Government Stressed by Green

Praises Cigar Makers For Having Originated the Union Label and For Providing a School of Education in Voluntarism Which Developed the Genius of Samuel Gompers.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

On July 29 the seventy-day celebration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the creation of the Cigar Makers' International Union of America was closed with a meeting in the Pall Mall Room of the Raleigh Hotel, Washington, D. C., attended by a large group of labor leaders and their friends. Addresses were delivered by William Green, President of the American Federation of Labor; Frances Perkins, Secretary of Labor; James M. Mead, United States Senator from New York; Claude Pepper, United States Senator from Florida. Mr. Green traced the development of the Cigar Makers in their struggle for freedom, lauded their educational work for having originated the union label as their struggle against cooke labor, emphasized their success in meeting constructively the problem of machinery in cigar making, and pointed out the importance of the contribution of the Cigar Makers' Union to organized labor in the United States by having provided a school but of which Samuel Gompers developed the genius which he imparted to the American Federation of Labor. This article contains Mr. Green's address.

By WILLIAM GREEN
President, American Federation of Labor

The American Federation of Labor extends its sincere and hearty congratulations to one of the oldest and finest organizations in its family of unions, the Cigar Makers' International Union.

We are tonight celebrating the seventy-fifth anniversary of this union, a great, democratic body of workers which has typified throughout its history the highest ideals of the American labor movement.

These seventy-five years have been years of struggle. Before the union was created the men who worked at the cigar makers bench were treated as slaves. Their pay was miserably low. They were forced to labor in dark, insanitary establishments where it was difficult to see or breathe. A man had to be hired from his work for a few minutes would be denounced by the boss as a loafer. The hours of work were excruciatingly long.

Fought, Substandard Conditions

No wonder the cigar makers rebelled against such intolerable conditions and sought a remedy through self-organization. Their task was difficult. They had to build up and establish the union and make it powerful was long and bitter. But now that we look back and see the accomplishments that this union has been able to achieve for the benefit of the workers of this trade, we can realize all the more fully how worth-while the struggle was. The Cigar Makers' International Union has become a permanent factor in American industry. Its members, organized from coast to coast, have obtained vastly improved conditions. And the result, statistics show, is that the average life of the cigar maker has been materially lengthened.

So as we look back over the years, we can rejoice in the conviction that the union has accomplished much and is the one great agency through which American workers can help themselves to a better standard of life and work.

Pays Tribute to Gompers

The splendid record of the Cigar Makers' International Union was made possible through the loyalty of the membership and the high qualities of its leadership. The cigar makers owe a great debt to Samuel Gompers for the service he rendered in their behalf as president of their union. The American Federation of Labor owes an everlasting debt to the Cigar Makers' International Union for bringing to the fore the man who established the American Federation of Labor on the tried and indestructible principles of democracy and voluntarism.

Thus the American Federation of Labor and the Cigar Makers' International Union have this strong common bond. Not only have they both benefited tremendously from the leadership of the same man. When Gompers heard the call he left the cigar maker and assumed the presidency of the American Federation of Labor, but his heart and mind remained with the cigar makers. He knew that the great institution it is today.

Provided Education for Members

The cigar makers have been an inspiration to the whole labor movement. Not only in helping to teach other trades the value of organization, but even more in forging the way to achieve material benefits for the workers, but also in developing and broadening the culture and educational facilities of the members.

This grew out of a curious custom which became very popular in the cigar makers shops in the old days. The men would chip in and buy newspapers, magazines and books. Then, while the men worked, one of the workers would read to them for an hour at a time. To protect the reader from financial loss, the other men would each turn over a number of

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What Editor's Say About Lewis's Attack on Vice President Garner

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ing, whiskey-drinking, evil old man," of other days, to thank. The Lewis-White House alliance is not what it used to be. Mr. Roosevelt has told friends that Lewis is the "greatest agociist in the country" which might explain why the C. I. O. leader grabbed the spotlight by attacking Garner.

But Garner's supporters are very happy over the entire Lewis incident. If the Vice President was seeking to smash the Wage-Hour Act Mr. Lewis helped him in no small degree. And so far the effect on the Texan's presidential boom, Lewis helped there also.

FROM MARK SULLIVAN'S SYNDICATED COLUMN
July 29, 1939

It was a lucky break for Mr. Garner.

But is it a lucky break for the country—that any one should make such an attack as Mr. Lewis made, on the man who holds the second highest office in the United States, and might any day, through misadventure to the President, hold the highest office, the spokesman of a comparatively small organization of labor, with its browbeat Congress should do what Mr. Lewis did?

It could be a lucky break for the country, provided the country realized the menace.

FROM LUDWELL DENNY'S COLUMN IN THE SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPERS
August 2, 1939

John L. Lewis' characterization of Vice President Garner as a "labor-baiting, whisky-drinking, poker-playing, evil old man" recalled today that one of Mr. Lewis' chief aides in politics as well as labor affairs seconded with glowing words the renomination of Mr. Garner at the Democratic National Convention of 1936.

Thomas Kennedy is one of the "big five" of the United Mine Workers, secretary-treasurer of that big union, and represents it on the executive board of the C. I. O.

Three years ago he was elected Democratic lieutenant governor of Pennsylvania, and in 1938 was unsuccessfully backed for the governorship nomination by a political machine organization organized by Sen. Joseph F. Guffey (D., Pa.) and Mr. Lewis. Mr. Kennedy was one of 17 speakers seconding the Garner nomination at Philadelphia three years ago.

FROM CLIFFORD A. PRESSOST COLUMN IN DETROIT FREE PRESS
July 30, 1939

John R. Lewis rendered organized labor a great disservice when he attacked Vice President John Nance Garner for his labor record in committee this week. At the same time Lewis rendered great service to those who desire intelligently to investigate the Wage-Hour Act, particularly the lobbies representing the agricultural industries.

Congress has been in such an uproar for the last few days that not a thing can happen. And if the Barden program should pass, Mr. Roosevelt will have only Lewis, his political ally

Thirty-Five A. F. of L. Organizers Assist Auto Workers Organizing Drive

Martin Says Campaign Opened in Detroit Aims to Develop Strong Union Based Upon Economic Security Obtained Through Agreements Faithfully Kept; Assails Strike Policy.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Detroit, Mich.—Thirty-five experienced organizers of the American Federation of Labor, directed by Francis Fenton, director of organization of the A. F. of L., joined forces with the International Union, United Automobile Workers of America, A. F. of L. affiliate, in a campaign to develop the U. A. W. A. into a union that will include all workers in the industry.

In a statement outlining the principles and policies which underlie the Auto Workers Union, Homer Martin, president of that organization, emphasized the value of collective bargaining and opposition to strikes except as a last resort. The text of Mr. Martin's statement follows:

"The United Automobile Workers of America today instituted a new campaign to bring into membership workers in the country under the American Federation of Labor and stabilize working conditions and employment in the automobile industry.

"It is to this drive we will have the full support and assistance of the American Federation of Labor and its constituent organizations. President William Green has pledged us his support.

"As the first step in carrying out that pledge, thirty-five age organizers of the American Federation of Labor have come to Detroit under the leadership of Francis Fenton, national director of organization for the American Federation of Labor. They will go to work immediately in cooperation with U.A.W. organizers.

Abjures Violence and Revolution

"President Roosevelt has abjured violence and revolution as a means of settling labor disputes. We will absolutely abjure violence. We are not attempting a revolution. We are organizing a trade union.

"We have had experience in the automobile industry to come with us. We have something concrete and constructive to offer. We have the full backing of the American Federation of Labor behind us, we offer the automobile workers security and stability. They can find these qualities in no other organization.

Seeks Security for Workers

"At the same time we are making the same offer to the automobile industry. The industry can find in security and stability in labor relations from no other organization.

"Let us make our policy clear. We know full well that the automobile workers of the country are sick of sporadic strikes, sick of the waste of constant bickering, battling and strikes. They want to work. They want to work in peace and security under fair conditions from management. That is what we will endeavor to get for them. We will do our utmost to get it for them through peaceful negotiation and collective bargaining.

Minimizes Use of Strikes

"The leaders of the United Automobile Workers of America hate strikes just as much as the workers do. We renounce strikes as a technique of organization and bargaining, except as an absolutely last resort when there is no other alternative. We renounce strikes that are the result of differences with management entirely and without reservation.

"It is not our purpose to destroy the automobile industry. It is our firm purpose to help it grow and prosper. It is not our purpose to create turmoil in the industry. We seek to stabilize it. We are not out to play any political game for any political movement. We are out to build a trade union for the promotion of the economic welfare of the workers.

Supports Americanism

"We have no interest in training recruits in the techniques of revolution. We want to foster Americanism. We have no intention of making a general nuisance of ourselves. Instead, we are determined to make our movement a constructive force. We are not going to promise the moon to our men. We do pledge them the concrete benefits of trade unionism.

"We have made a lot of mistakes. We will not repeat them.

"After all, the automobile industry itself did not grow up overnight. The industry made many mistakes during the development. You first rattletraps into the sleek, streamlined cars of today. We ask the public to take that into consideration.

"In the same way as the industry has done, we are now offering the nation a new model union."

10,400,000 Are Still Looking For Jobs

(Continued from Page 1)

400,000 in our working population and a decrease of 2,100,000 in the jobs available for them.

"With this large increase in job seekers, industry will have to operate at levels well above 1929 if all are to have work.

"Actually, our productive industries as a whole in 1939 have averaged 81 per cent below the 1929 level.

"The building industry, expected to be one of the largest employers of labor in 1939 has averaged 35 per cent below the 1929 levels, 200,000 jobs have been lost in our utilities, due largely to technological devices; mining industries have dropped 300,000.

"This makes a total of 4,000,000 lost jobs.

"However, increased employment in the Federal Government, in schools and in a few industries such as restaurants and drug stores, has offset part of the job loss by adding 1,000,000 jobs since 1929; this adds up to the above figure of 3,000,000 to 3,100,000.

"This, with the 5,400,000 new workers, adds to a total of 8,500,000 new unemployed.

"These new unemployed have counted heavily on WPA, which has in the past often provided for more than 3,000,000.

"Today WPA is cut to 2,418,000 (July 5) and further reductions will follow rapidly. Relief rolls of 1,645,000 in May included several hundred thousand unemployed."

Unemployed Union Members

The statement issued by the Federation also included the extent to which members of affiliated unions are hit by unemployment during the last depression.

For all trades the average per cent of union members unemployed during each year was: 1928, 12 per cent; 1929, 12 per cent; 1930, 21 per cent; 1931, 26 per cent; 1932, 32 per cent; 1933, 31 per cent; 1934, 25 per cent; 1935, 23 per cent; 1936, 17 per cent; 1937, 12 per cent; 1938, 18 per cent; 1939 (July), 12 per cent.

During this ten-year period the trade union members of the building trades were hardest hit by unemployment. The A. F. of L. figures reveal that the average per cent of building union members in the building trades was: 1928, 9 per cent; 1929, 20 per cent; 1930, 40 per cent; 1931, 52 per cent; 1932, 64 per cent; 1933, 67 per cent; 1934, 54 per cent; 1935, 52 per cent; 1936, 33 per cent; 1937, 26 per cent; 1938, 37 per cent; 1939 (July), 23 per cent.

Importance of Democracy in Trade Union Government Stressed by Green

(Continued from Page 1)

the cigars they had made. In this way the cigar makers broadened their education. They kept abreast of current events. And each shop became a labor forum.

Political questions also were discussed in these forums. The more radical groups were especially eloquent. The question the workers eventually had to decide for themselves was whether it would be more practical for them to seek to achieve their ends through political action or through trade union activity. It was in discussions such as these that Samuel Gompers received his background and formed his convictions which have since been translated into the way and successful non-partisan political policy of the American Federation of Labor.

Originated Union Label

Another great contribution which the cigar makers have made to the American labor movement is the union label.

At one time the importation of coolie labor into California threatened to wreck the wage structure of the cigar makers on the west coast and put them all out of work. In self-defense, the cigar makers adopted the experiment of marking their products with a white label to differentiate union-made cigars from those made by cheap coolie labor.

The plan succeeded, many other trade unions followed the example of the cigar makers. Today the Union Label Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor is one of its most important adjuncts. Millions of union men and women have been trained to look for the union label in the union shop card before making purchases. Thus the great reservoir of labor's purchasing power has been mobilized in support of enterprises and services which employ union labor and pay union wages and live up to union conditions.

Met Machinery Problem

May I pay tribute also to the keenness and adaptability of the cigar makers and their union. Years ago cigars were all made by hand. It required great skill to make them properly and quickly.

Then the industry was hit by the industrial revolution. Time-saving and labor-saving machinery was introduced. The cigar makers had to adapt themselves to new skills. They had to bear with forthrunk the prospect of decimation of job opportunities. That they were able to surmount these difficulties represents a great triumph for the cigar makers and their union. And the march of industrial and merchandising progress has provided more jobs for the cigar makers than they dared hope.

Democracy Must Be Preserved

So it gives me great pleasure tonight to join with the officers and members of the Cigar Makers' International Union in celebrating the occasion of its diamond jubilee. We of the American Federation of Labor are proud to have you cigar makers in our ranks. For today organized labor is beset with new problems. Rather, I should say that they are old problems which have come up anew.

Again the American labor movement is threatened from within by those who wish to substitute autocracy for democracy, by those who are willing to wear organized labor into hostile camps in order to satisfy their political ambitions. Before he died Samuel Gompers told us:

"No lasting gain has ever come from violence. If we seek to force, we but tear apart that which united we have labored."

Those words are particularly appropriate today. The American Federation of Labor is making a stand in defense of democracy and majority rule in labor.

We have received the loyal support of President Van Horn and the other officers and members of the Cigar Makers' International Union. We rely on that continued support. And I am certain that the record of the Cigar Makers' International Union in this struggle will be recounted in the celebration of its one hundredth anniversary twenty-five years from now with the same pride which we all share tonight in your past accomplishments.

Senate Defeats, By Close Vote, Prevailing Wage on WPA Projects

Forty Senators Voted Against and Thirty-eight Voted for McCarran Amendment to Spend-Lend Bill.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington, D. C.—On July 27 the Senate of the United States by a vote of 40 to 38, with 18 Senators registered as not voting, defeated the McCarran amendment to the Spend-Lend Bill repealing the provision of the recently enacted WPA Appropriation Bill which killed the payment of prevailing wage rates on WPA work.

The defeated amendment, sponsored by Senator Pat McCarran of Nevada, provided for the payment of the hourly prevailing rate of wages on all WPA work in all States and increased the monthly security earnings for WPA workers in Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Tennessee, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina and Virginia.

The amendment was defeated by only two votes. The vote follows:

Against the amendment, 40—Andrews, Austin, Bailey, Bankhead, Barbour, Bilbo, Brown, Bulow, Burke, Byrd, Byrnes, Clark, Idaho; Clark, Missouri; Ellender, George, Green, Guffey, Gurney, Hale, Hatch, Hayden, Herring, Hill, Holman, Hughes, McKellar, Miller, Minton, Pepper, Radcliffe, Russell, Sheppard, Smith, Stewart, Taft, Tobey, Townsend, Truman, Tydings, White.

Absent—Adams, 38—Adams, Ashurst, Barbour, Bone, Borah, Brown, Capper, Downey, Chavez, Danaher, Frazier, Gerry, Glass, Holt, Johnson, Colorado; La Follette, Lodge, Lucas, Lundeen, McCarran, Maloney, Murray, Neely, Norris, Nye, Reynolds, Pittman, Reed, Schwartz, Schwellenbach, Slattery, Thomas, Oklahoma, Thomas, Utah; Vandenberg, Van Nuys, Wagner, Walsh, Wheeler.

Not voting, 18—Caraway, Connally, Davis, Donahey, Gillette, Glass, Harrison, Johnson, California, King, Lee, Logan, McNary, Mead, Overton, Reynolds, Shipstead, Smathers, Wiley.

In commenting on the defeat of the McCarran amendment, William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, said:

"Many Senators spoke in favor of the amendment and after giving some excuse or another, either voted against it or did not vote at all.

"Some Senators from the Southern States argued that it was their purpose to maintain the monthly security earnings in Northern States to increase them in Southern States and to pay the hourly prevailing rate of wages in all States.

"Despite the fact that the amendment did just what these Senators from the South claimed they wished to accomplish, some of them either refrained from voting or voted against the amendment."

Employment of Many Thousand WPA Workers Safeguarded by Senate

Amendment to Spend-Lend Bill Modifies Compulsory Furlough of Those With 18 Months Continuous Work.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington, D. C.—After defeating by a vote of 40 to 38 the amendment of the Spend-Lend Bill making the prevailing wage compulsory on WPA work, the Senate surprised observers when it adopted by a vote of 43 to 32 the amendments sponsored by Senator James E. Murray of Montana to modify the furlough provisions in the WPA Appropriation Bill which made it mandatory that any so-called furlough be arbitrarily imposed on WPA workers who had been continuously employed on WPA work, for 18 months or more.

It was the arbitrary provision in the WPA Appropriation Act which caused F. C. Harrington, WPA Commissioner, to begin dismissals which he estimated would total over half a million workers.

The Murray amendment provides that the application of the provision for the discharge of persons with 18 or more months of service "shall not result in the discharge of a person employed on works projects where by the bona fide and honorable effort to find suitable private employment or where project operations would suffer from his discharge because of unusual hardship would result from such discharge."

When Mr. Harrington was informed of the action of the Senate he ordered all State WPA administrators to stop furloughs under the original WPA Appropriation Law.

The Senate amendment has to face the House of Representatives. Observers are not predicting what will happen there.

FENTON HITS C. I. O. AS BANKRUPT GROUP

A. F. of L. Organization Director Leads Force of 35 Organizers to Strengthen Automobile Workers Union.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Detroit, Mich.—Complete annihilation of the United Automobile Workers of America, A. F. of L. affiliate, is the policy of the American Federation of Labor, were the keynote of a statement issued by Francis Fenton, national director of organization for the A. F. of L. at the opening of a campaign here, backed by 75 organizers of the A. F. of L. insurers, to assist the officials of the Automobile Workers Union in increasing their membership to a point where it will be the dominant union in the industry.

"It means nothing to President William Green when I say that the American Federation of Labor is not going to interfere in any way in the management or administration of its international union, the United Automobile Workers of America," Mr. Fenton said.

"The auto workers have called upon the American Federation of Labor for help. They need help. We are going to give it to them. We are going to marshal the invincible strength of the American Federation of Labor in a determined effort to build a sound and enduring automobile workers union.

"We have every confidence in the leadership of the U.A.W. We know the men in the ranks share our confidence. The C. I. O. is bankrupt. It is bankrupt of funds, it is bankrupt of constructive ideas. It is bankrupt of leadership. That is plainly evident from the statement of the personnel of John L. Lewis before the House Labor Committee the other day in Washington.

"The American Federation of Labor is a democratic organization. Its national and international unions are granted full autonomy and self-government. The U.A.W. is going to function in the autonomous manner. This is consistent with the democratic principles of the A. F. of L. We will not depart from these principles under any circumstances."

Fire Fighters, an affiliate of the American Federation of Labor.

The right to join the union was taken away by the Nazi labor union's capital in 1920 following the Boston police strike.

The bill removing the ban on union membership was introduced in the House of Representatives by Representative Jennings Randolph, chairman of the House District Committee, at the request of the International Association of Fire Fighters, whose officials and the legislative representatives of the American Federation of Labor successfully piloted it through both the House of Representatives and the Senate.

Social Security Board Furnishes Wage Credit Statements For Old-Age Security Accounts

Washington, D. C. (AFLWNS).—The Social Security Board issued the following statement to all persons registered with the Board in connection with the old-age insurance provided by the Government under the Social Security Act:

"The Social Security Board announces that it is ready to furnish you a statement of the wages credited to your old-age insurance account prior to January 1, 1939. The statement will show the amount of your wages as reported to the Government by your employers.

"If there is any mistake in these figures, this is your chance to ask for the necessary correction.

"The Social Security Board provides postcards for you to use when you ask for the statement. You may get one of these cards at any Social Security Board office, or your union can get them for all its members.

"The card is addressed to the Social Security Board, and calls for certain information necessary to identify your account.

"After filling in the blanks, you can mail the card under a one-cent stamp, or in a sealed envelope under a three-cent stamp.

"It will be returned to you with the amount of your wages up to 1938 written into the blanks at bottom of the card."

MEAT CUTTERS SIGN UP DIXON PACKING COMPANY

Chicago, Ill. (AFLWNS).—The General Office of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of America announced that a strictly union closed shop agreement has been consummated with the Dixon Packing Company at Houston, Texas.

The Dixon Company is the second largest slaughtering concern in the Southwest and the contract negotiated covers more than two hundred employees.

In addition to the strictly union proviso in the understanding—seniority rights, vacations with pay, holidays with pay each year and an arbitration clause which bars cessation of production during the life of the agreement were also secured. It has been pledged that no decreases in pay amounting to 25 cents per hour, or more will result in prevailing rates of pay for the type of work to which they are assigned, the basis to be established by the Department of Assistance. Officials said that employable persons on the dole have been classified and that each one would be assigned to the kind of work he was best equipped to perform.

VIRGINIA BUS DRIVERS WIN PAY BOOST STRIKE

Arlington, Va. (AFLWNS).—Members of Local 1135 of the Amalgamated Association of Street, Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employees of America, an affiliate of the American Federation of Labor, won a wage increase after a three-day strike against the Arlington & Fairfax Motor Transportation Company and the Arlington & Fairfax Auto Railroad Company.

The agreement negotiated with the management of the companies included the modified closed shop and provides wage increases of five cents per hour. Under the contract present non-union employes will not be required to join the union, but new employes must take out union cards.

D. C. FIREMEN'S BILL SIGNED BY ROOSEVELT

Law Repeals Ban Against Union Membership Enacted in 1920.

Washington, D. C. (AFLWNS).—President Roosevelt signed the bill recently enacted by Congress permitting District of Columbia firemen to join the International Association of

Railroad Trainmen Condemned By Michigan State Labor Federation

Assailed for Invading Field of A. F. of L. Street and Electric Railway Employes Union

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

The recent convention of the Michigan State Federation of Labor adopted the following resolution denouncing the activities of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen in entering the jurisdiction of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employes of America, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor:

"WHEREAS, The Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen has set itself up as an organization dual in interests to the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employes; and

"WHEREAS, The Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen while trying to impress prospects of its American Federation of Labor affiliation, is not and never has been affiliated with the American Federation of Labor and has never contributed one cent to the support of the American Federation of Labor, while the Amalgamated Association has donated over $400,000 in per capita tax to the parent organization; and

"WHEREAS, The Amalgamated Association is the only organization having jurisdiction from the American Federation of Labor over electric railways and bus lines; and

"WHEREAS, The Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen has tried to disrupt Amalgamated Divisions of the Atlanta Electric Railroad and the Chicago North Shore and Milwaukee line with the obvious intention of dismantling these companies as competitors of the steam railroads; therefore be it

"RESOLVED, That the Michigan Federation of Labor denounce the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen for its activities and appeal to the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen to stay within its jurisdiction and promote peace in the organized labor movement."

NEW WORK RELIEF PLAN BEGUN IN PHILADELPHIA

Jobless Are Conscripted for Employment by Tax-Supported Units.

Philadelphia, Pa. (AFLWNS).—Over 65,000 men and women in Philadelphia County were shifted from State to State work-relief lists on August 1 under the terms of the so-called "worker-no-dole" act passed by the recent session of the Pennsylvania Legislature.

The Philadelphia County Board of Assistance notified 112 city, county and State governmental units and institutions that, beginning August 1, part by taxes, that they could requisition free labor from this work list.

The out-of-works will be paid pre-

Murray Amendment Safeguarding WPA Jobs Killed by House Action

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington, D. C.—The action of the House of Representatives refusing to concur in Senate Bill No. 166, the $1,950,000,000 bill for the construction and financing of self-liquidating projects, favorably reported by the House Committee on Banking and Currency, virtually killed the amendment added to the similar bill passed by the Senate modifying the unsafe provision in the WPA appropriation act requiring the furlough of all WPA workers who have been on the WPA rolls continuously for 18 months.

The Senate bill was sent to the House of Representatives and referred to the House Committee on Banking and Currency. But the anti-labor members of the House in killing the Senate bill reported by the Banking and Currency Committee applied the kiss of death to the Senate amendment.

(See earlier story, cols. 3, 4, this page)

Congressman Barden's Amendments To Wage-Hour Act Hit by A. F. of L.

Exemptions Sought by North Carolina Representative Are "Economically Unsound," President Green Declares.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington, D. C.—William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, sent the following letter to Representative Graham A. Barden of North Carolina commenting on Federation's opposition to the amendments to the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 sought by Mr. Barden in his bill which President Roosevelt has said would destroy the law for the working men and women of the protection provided by the present law:

"A study of the amendments which you have proposed to the Fair Labor Standards Act leads me to write you and frankly state that many of the amendments you propose are highly objectionable to the American Federation of Labor.

"For instance, one amendment to the Fair Labor Standards Act which you propose, provides that all wage earners who earn $150 per month would be exempt from the provisions regulating the hours of labor which are provided in the Fair Labor Standards Act.

"Such a provision is economically unsound because as the records show most thinking people agree that the standard hours worked per week must be lessened if we are to overcome widespread unemployment. We must facilitate the spreading of work available among a larger number of people. That objective can only be attained through a reduction in the number of hours worked per day and per week.

"The section which provides for the incorporation of the forty-four hour week in the Fair Labor Standards Act can not be regarded as unreasonable. It provides a uniform standard work week for all who are subject to the provisions of the law. If we are to exempt a large number of workers from this provision of the Fair Labor Standards Act we will suffer indefinitely from unemployment.

"It is my opinion that the Fair Labor Standards Act should at least operate as it is. Time will demonstrate the soundness of the provisions of this social justice statute. It would certainly have been unwise about one year. Sufficient time has not yet elapsed to show that we might test the soundness and practicability of the regulatory provisions of this Act.

"I wish to register in behalf of the membership of the American Federation of Labor our opposition to the amendments which you offer to the Fair Labor Standards Act."

SWIFT EMPLOYES STRIKE IN CALIFORNIA PLANTS

San Francisco, Calif. (AFLWNS).—The Western Federation of Butcher Workmen, last approved July 1,500 employes it ten northern California plants of Swift & Company, packers, had struck in protest against the concern's failure to comply with union agreements and refusal to negotiate. Officials of the Federation, an affiliate of the A. F. of L., indicated that the strike would involve a number of other unions including retail butchers, machinists, engineers and auto mechanics.

Labor Board Orders Separate Plant Elections in Automobile Industry

(Continued from Page 1)

one member of the majority hereafter to reverse his position and join the dissenting members), yet it is gratifying to note that the decision announced in the Longshoremen's case and the Libbey-Ford-Owens Glass Company case were not followed in these automobile industry decisions. If they had been, the Automotive Association of Labor may have been excluded from representing its members in automobile plants even though all the workers in a plant were members of the American Federation of Labor.

Machinists Recognized as Separate Unit

"Of considerable consequence, too, is the acceptance by the Board of the contentions made by the International Association of Machinists that machinists be constituted a separate unit for the selection of a bargaining representative. The decisions grant the petition of the International Association of Machinists and the employes in this craft will vote independently of the other production workers in the plants."

The reasoning used by the Board in its recent decisions adopts the sound basis of the American Federation of Labor as voiced by President William Hodges Mathews and other witnesses at the hearings of the Senate Committee when the Longshoremen's and the Libbey-Ford-Owens Glass Company cases were discussed and criticized.